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SEMI-WEEKLY.

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Recapitulation.
"Present pay-roll, \$15,167 per month; \$364,000 for two years. Thirty new

WITH STATUTE MAKERS

The Senators Busy in Committees.

THE HOUSE IS HARD AT WORK.

Registration Act Amended—Appropriations for Police Recommended—Confidence in Minister Cooper—Control of the Military—More Petitions, Etc.

Twenty-seventh Day.
Tuesday, March 24.

Senator Waterhouse was the first member of the Senate to catch the President's eye, and forthwith a petition signed by fifty residents of Napoosoo for a wharf at that place was presented.

Senator Rice came next with the announcement that the Printing Committee had copies of Senate Bills 16, 18, 19 and 20 ready for distribution.

Senator McCandless, from the Military Committee, reported favorably on the act placing the Military Department under the control of the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Senate Bill No. 14, on contested elections, passed final reading.

The bill giving the Minister of Foreign Affairs control of the Military passed first and second reading and was made the order of the day for Wednesday.

Senator Brown's bill authorizing the Minister of the Interior to issue licenses for the manufacture of alcohol was read the first time and referred to the Committee on Commerce.

Minister Damon's bills relating to the public loan were referred to a special committee of three. President Wilder stated he would name the members of that committee on Wednesday.

Senator Holstein's bill making further changes in the election laws was read and referred to the Printing Committee.

Adjourned.

House of Representatives.

President Signs Bills.
Minister King announced signing by the President of House bills relating to the vending of wares and merchandise on the streets, the preservation of court records and dockets of district magistrates, and the joint resolution exempting the Marshal from any responsibility of certain irregularities which occurred before his incumbency.

Board of Education Matters.
Rep. Bond reported for the Committee on Public Health and Education, to whom was referred items regarding the Bureau of Public Instruction, as follows:

"From statistics furnished by the Board of Education, the situation is as follows:

"The present pay-roll of that department is \$15,167 35 per month; the salaries of teachers range from \$10 a month for the temporary assistants to \$225 a month for the highest paid principal of schools, of whom there is but one drawing the highest salary.

Average Salary of Teachers.
"The average salary paid to teachers at the present time is about \$50 a month.

"The average number of pupils per teacher is 35.

"The sum of \$360,000, provided for in the bill received from the Senate, is at the rate of \$15,000 a month, which is below the present pay-roll and allows of no further expansion in the schools.

Schoolhouses or Teachers?
"The force of observation that it would be useless to build school houses if there are no funds to pay for teachers to teach in them, will be at once apparent. The only way to meet the difficulty, if no relief is given by the Legislature, would be to close the schools when the funds are exhausted or reduce the salaries which, with very few exceptions, only afford a bare living for the teachers.

Request of the Board.
"The Board asked for an appropriation of \$430,000 for the two years (\$17,500 a month), and the request was based on calculations.

Increase in Attendance.
"During the last two years the number of pupils in the Government English schools has advanced from 7,732 to 9,093, an increase of 1,361 pupils, or 17.6 per cent.

"Allowing that during the next two years the increase would be only 1,200, and the average number of pupils to a teacher be increased to 40, there would be thirty new teachers required, which, at the average salary of \$50 per month, would mean \$1,500 a month more (\$36,000 in two years).

"There would be required for additional janitors and truant officers \$250 a month (\$5,000 in two years), and for raises in salaries necessitated by the schedule which has been the guide for the Board's action in appropriating salaries, the sum of about \$333 per month (\$8,000 in two years).

Recapitulation.
"Present pay-roll, \$15,167 per month; \$364,000 for two years. Thirty new

teachers at \$1,500 per month; \$36,000 for two years. Janitors and truant officers, \$250 per month; \$5,000 for two years. Increased salaries, \$333 per month; \$8,000 for two years. Total per month, \$17,500; total for two years, \$414,000.

"The Board asked for \$17,500 a month, in order to pave the way to meet possible contingencies (\$420,000 in two years).

"Granting for the sake of argument that the estimated increase in the number of pupils may not be realized, it certainly will not be contended that there may be a decrease, nor that the present pay-roll would be reduced.

"The dictates of wisdom would seem to require that provision be made for something beyond the bare necessities of the present moment. An ignorant constituency is neither desirable or safe, and your committee would deprecate an undue application of the principles of economy to this branch of the public service.

"The law requiring the attendance of children at schools is compulsory, and the inconsistency, to say nothing of the injustice, of requiring a line of action for compliance with which no provision has been made, need not be dwelt upon.

Private Schools Out of It.
"In connection with this subject, your committee would draw attention to the fact that the practice of aiding private schools with funds from the public treasury has recently been by law discontinued, and the amount thus saved, amounting to the sum of about \$18,000 annually, may justly be considered as legitimately available for the purpose of extending the public schools and increasing their efficiency.

Schoolhouses Overcrowded.
"As will be seen from the report of the Board, many of the present schoolhouses are overcrowded and the number of children within school age still unprovided for is estimated to be upward of 800.

"As relating to the new item of \$3,600 for Deputy Inspector and Sub-Agent, by reference to the report of the Board it will appear that the increase in the number of schools and the number of pupils attending them has been so great of late years as to place it beyond the capacity of a single inspector to give them proper attention.

"The petition from Kauai, for an inspector for that island alone, may be taken as evidence of the public opinion on his point.

Conclusion.
"Your committee appreciate the necessity of guarding in every direction against an extravagant or wasteful expenditure of the public funds, but they do not believe that the brunt of the burden of economizing should be thrown upon the Educational Department, nor that its officers should be hampered in their endeavors to carry out the provisions of the law.

"Expansion and extension should be the rule in this direction, rather than contraction.

"The members of the Board of Education devote a large amount of time to the discharge of the public duties imposed upon them, and serve without compensation.

"We recommend that the items pass as follows:

"Salary of Inspector-General, \$5,500; salary of Deputy Inspector-General, \$3,600; salary of clerk and secretary, \$3,600; salary of messenger and book clerk, \$1,800; support of English and Hawaiian and Hawaiian and common schools, pay-roll, \$395,400; salary school agents, \$4,500. Total, \$415,000.

Report laid on the table, to be considered with the bill.

Rep. Robertson reported for the Military Committee, to whom was referred the item in the Appropriation Bill for salaries and pay-rolls regarding

"Support of the Military, Pay Rolls \$136,000.

"Considerable economy has of late been displayed in the matter of military expenditures, and a material reduction in the cost of maintaining the force has been made, without in any manner impairing its efficiency. We feel confident that as the conditions warrant it, further changes will be made, with the probable result that at the end of the biennial period a large balance of this appropriation will remain unexpended. But we do not think it wise to cut down the appropriation, lest occasion may arise requiring an increased expenditure.

Confidence in Minister Cooper.
"Having the utmost confidence in the Minister of Foreign Affairs, and believing that he will expend no more of the appropriation than he deems necessary, we think that the item should pass and that the matter of its expenditure be left to his discretion.

"We recommend that the item pass as in the bill."

Report laid on the table, to be considered with the matter when brought up.

Referred Section on Registration.
Rep. Robertson reported for the Judiciary Committee, to whom was referred Section 2 of "An Act to provide for the registration of male residents in the Republic of Hawaii," as follows:

"In accordance with the instructions given us by the House, we have prepared a substitute section, requiring every male person over 15 years of age coming into the country, to register immediately upon landing.

"We submit the section without committing ourselves to the wisdom of the proposed change."

"Section 2.—It shall be the duty of every person liable to registration un-

der this Act to register in accordance with its terms on or before the first day of August, A. D. 1896, and every male person over the age of 15 years thereafter coming into the Republic shall register immediately upon landing. Each such person shall under oath or affirmation give to the respective registrars before whom he shall register, all information necessary to complete the record herein provided for."

Rep. Richards reported for the Printing Committee that the bill regarding streets in Hilo had been printed.

Referred Items—Appropriation Bill.
Rep. Richards reported for the Committee on Finance, to whom was referred certain items from "Appropriation Bill for Salaries and Pay-rolls," as follows:

Page 10, Line 22—Pay of Police, Hawaii, \$46,500.

"Your committee find upon examination that the amount asked for is but very little more than the average expenditure, and as future requirements will certainly be as much, if not more, than has been required in the past, we recommend passage of the item as in the bill.

Page 11, Line 28—Pay of Police, Maui, \$31,000.

"This is the same amount as was appropriated last period, and apparently is as small an amount as should be appropriated for policing that island.

Page 11, Line 40—Pay of Police, Oahu, \$140,000.

"It has been represented to the committee by the Attorney-General that this item should remain, in order to guarantee the safety of the community, and it is upon this representation that the committee recommend the item pass as in the bill."

Rep. Richards reported for the Printing Committee that the bill relating to the improvements of streets in Honolulu had been typewritten.

Rep. Winston reported for the select committee, to whom was referred an item placing the pay of the Veterinary Surgeon at \$1,200, that the same had been under careful consideration and that the committee recommended its passage as in the bill.

Items on Insane Asylum.
Rep. Richards reported for the select committee to whom had been referred all items regarding appropriations for the Insane Asylum. The committee had visited that institution and had decided to recommend the appropriations as passed by the Senate.

Another Road Wanted.
Under suspension of rules Rep. Kamauoha read a petition from the district of Kau, Hawaii, praying that an appropriation of \$4,000 be made for the opening of a road from Punaluu to certain homesteads at Waikaula. Referred to the Committee on Public Lands.

Registration Bill Again.
Third reading of House Bill No. 7 announced. Recommendation of the committee on the referred section regarding tourists, as fully discussed in the House recently, stated.

Minister Smith was in favor of making the matter of registration for all uniform.

Did Not Like the Report.
Rep. Robertson said that although the House had referred the section under discussion to the Judiciary Committee, with the instruction that they change the section, giving tourists no special rights, he felt that he could not favor such action. There should be an exemption of three months for travelers. The main object of the section was to keep track of a certain class of people, and to do that he was aware of the fact that the meshes of the net representing the law should not be made too large; but making a proviso in regard to three months' exemption was not, in his opinion, a sufficiently large loophole for the class spoken of to squeeze through. Most of the travelers coming into the country are from countries where such a thing as registration is unknown. Having to perform the act here would be, to say the least, distasteful. Rep. Robertson moved that the amendment as sent in by the committee be laid on the table.

Minister Cooper—"Kokua."

Minister Smith moved for the adoption of the report of the committee.

Another Point.
Minister Cooper spoke of one point in regard to the matter which had not been touched upon. The class of people for whom the section was designed to reach all came into the country in the steerage of various vessels. From here they were required to go to the quarantine station, and then, before leaving, their intentions were stated. If they intended to reside here they were liable to registration.

Do Something Else.
Rep. Rycroft was in favor of some other mode of identification for travelers. In his opinion the date of landing was all-necessary. Even the name of the person need not be stated. If he remained over three months, then he should be made to register.

Rep. Bond was in favor of the ideas expressed by Rep. Rycroft, and moved that the section under discussion be referred back to the committee, with the instruction to find some mode of identification along the line of Rep. Rycroft's suggestions.

Rep. Rycroft rose to speak again.

Long Enough Sir!
Speaker Naone—I have allowed the member from Puna the privilege of the floor longer than should be granted.

He has spoke more times than is allowable, and my patience has been about exhausted.

Rep. Robertson—I move that Rep. Rycroft be allowed to speak again. Carried.

Encourage Tourist Travel.
Rep. Rycroft—The Government has spent thousands upon thousands of dollars for tourist travel. It is fix a road here or do something else there, all for tourist travel. I do not object to that at all, for I believe it is a good thing for the country that this travel should be encouraged, but now we come in with a hard and fast law making it compulsory for tourists to register upon landing. There seems to be an inconsistency somewhere. I am in favor of substituting a mode of identification that shall be as light as possible on tourists. I am sorry to have overstepped my bounds in speaking so often, but I shall try in the future not to do so.

The motion for passage of the report of the committee carried.

Upon motion of Rep. Richards, vote for passage of the Registration Bill in third reading was taken. Result: 9 ayes and 5 noes. Speaker Naone declared bill passed third reading.

At 12 noon the House took a recess until 1:30 p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.
First section of law regarding widening certain streets in the town of Hilo, Hawaii, was read and Rep. Richards moved for a reconsideration of section 3, for the reason that there was a discussion when the bill was reached the second time as to the width of Wainui-nui. Since then the Executive has handed in a bill relative to widths of certain streets in Honolulu. As the Executive has specified the width of Honolulu streets, there is no reason why a specific width should not be set for Wainui-nui street. I asked, after a conversation with the Executive, that the width be fifty-four feet, and I would ask that this be so placed in the bill.

Vote on reconsideration of section 3 was unanimous in favor.

Joint resolution from Senate regarding payment of expenses of Legislature was read.

On motion of Rep. Kamauoha the resolution was adopted.

The next bill for consideration was one relating to importation of kerosene for fuel.

Rep. Bond—As Rep. Robertson, the introducer, is absent, I think consideration should be postponed.

Rep. Kamauoha moved the bill be considered by title. Carried.

Rep. Bond moved it be referred to Committee on Commerce. Carried.

Bill No. 9, relating to extension of streets in Honolulu, reported back from Printing Committee at the morning session, and on motion of Rep. Kamauoha it was read by title and referred to Committee on Public Lands.

As there were no other bills on the Speaker's desk, Rep. Kamauoha moved that the House adjourn in order that the Committees might have an opportunity to do some work. Carried.

Adjourned.

Twenty-Ninth Day.
Wednesday, March 25.

After the usual opening exercises, Minister King announced that the President had signed the bill relating to the sale of foreign newspapers, the bill relating to the preservation of District Court records, and the joint resolution on the Marshal's office shortage.

A communication received from the House stated that the Registration Act had passed the third reading; that Senate Bill No. 6, relating to Hilo street improvement, had passed with amendments, and that the joint resolution relating to auditing Legislative accounts had been adopted.

Corrugated Iron Buildings.
Senator McCandless presented the following petition, signed by leading business firms and property holders of the city:

"We, the undersigned, representing property and business interests in the city of Honolulu, do petition your honorable body to make such changes in the existing fire laws as shall prevent the erection of such unsightly structures as are now being erected on some of the principal streets.

"The erection of such buildings, constructed mainly of corrugated iron, not only tend to destroy the appearance of our thoroughfares, but they depreciate the value of adjoining property; they discourage the building of stone and brick structures; and, furthermore, while complying, perhaps, with the present law, are nevertheless not fire-proof buildings, properly speaking.

"We would therefore petition that action be taken with a view not only to stopping the issuing of further permits for this class of buildings, but also, if possible, to cancel any such permits already issued."

The petition was referred to the Committee on Public Lands.

Senator Lyman reported from the committee to which was referred the report of the Pail Road Commission. After investigating the matter thoroughly, the Senate committee reported unanimously in favor of the Bruner 8 per cent. grade. The report of the committee was adopted.

The Committee on Public Lands, to which was referred the petition for a wharf, etc., at Napoosoo recommended the matter be tabled until the appropriation bill comes up. Report accepted.

The Printing Committee reported a list of bills received from the printer and typewriter.

President Wilder named the special Finance Committee, as follows: Senators Waterhouse, Schmidt, Wilcox, Brown and Baldwin.